

Office of the United States Attorney District of Arizona

PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOR OF MARANA AND ANOTHER MARANA MAN INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY

TUCSON, Ariz. -- A federal grand jury here today returned a two-count indictment against Bobby Glenn Sutton, Jr., 35, and a three-count indictment against Richard Arthur Westfall, 43, both of Marana, Ariz.

The indictment alleges that Sutton, the Mayor of Marana, Ariz., and Westfall conspired and agreed to extort Waste Management, a Houston, Texas based multi-state company. The object of the conspiracy was to unlawfully obtain money and a position for Westfall from Waste Management by using Sutton's official position to, among other things, threaten official action that would disrupt the business of Waste Management. The amount of money demanded for Westfall was as high as \$60,000 a month regardless of whether there was actual work available for Westfall. Both defendants have been served with the indictment and summonsed to court through their attorneys.

The federal indictment charges Sutton and Westfall with Count 1 (Hobbs Act Conspiracy) and Count 2 (Attempted Extortion) in violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1951 (a). In addition, Westfall was charged in count 3 (False Statements) in violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1001.

A conviction for Title 18 U.S.C. §1951(a) carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001 carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the FBI. The prosecution is being handled by Howard D. Sukenic, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

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